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The parish of Tysoe studied by Mr. Ashby is situated in South Warwickshire. Parts of the village were enclosed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries but most of the land lay in open fields until 1796. The land tax assessments indicate that small proprietors predominated in the early eighteenth century, and increased in numbers for a few years after enclosure. The changed conditions, however, were unfavorable and the land gradually passed into the hands of the wealthy.

The crisis in poor law administration is in this village very directly related to the results of enclosure. Rates were moderate and conditions in the village encouraging until the beginning of the nineteenth century; only then do we find the demoralization of the poor that is so well known from the reports of the commission of 1834.

Mr. Ashby has shown great skill in bringing out the relations of the parish to the general issues but he seldom draws precise conclusions from his material though all his facts are rich in suggestions. In this field it is scarcely possible that anything should be entirely new, but in his treatment of the workhouse test in the eighteenth century, the description of the system of indoor relief in cottages, and the account of the early forms of the Roundsman system, Mr. Ashby presents much that is fresh and stimulating. The Roundsman system has apparently been obscured historically by the destruction of records. Separate books were kept, but they have all disappeared, and there is good reason to believe that they were destroyed before the inquiry of 1832. But this is only one of many significant comments. The study is, indeed, a distinct contribution to the literature upon the Poor Laws.

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WALLIS, LOUIS. *Sociological Study of the Bible.* Pp. xxxv, 308. Price, \$1.50.  
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1912.

For many years there has been a growing recognition that the philosophy of any people must be explained and interpreted in the light of its history. Oddly enough, in one sense, few have realized that such an interpretation was much needed for the Bible. Though thousands on thousands have studied this literature, the effort to find God therein often results in the loss of the human background. In time it was certain that the method which had yielded such rich results in other directions would be applied here—witness the volume under review.

Now it is generally recognized that our knowledge of the actual history of the Israelites is meager and broken. Many conflicting opinions exist as to what took place. It must be left to others to determine whether the author has gotten such a mastery of the Hebrew tongue that his interpretation is reliable and such a knowledge of Hebrew history that his statement of facts is reliable. Assuming that he has, the value of such a work turns upon two things: the stimulus it gives other students to pursue further a similar method in search of larger results, and second, the new viewpoint it gives to those who are trying to understand and explain our religious development. To create a scientific attitude and show how sociology may come to the aid of exegesis is a main object of the writer.

The introduction reviews the history of biblical interpretation. Dr. Wallis believes that the development of the religion really began in the contact of scattered Israelitish clans coming into contact with the settled Amorite city dwellers. This race contact worked out a new form of political organization, which is the keynote to the whole development, and which finds its biblical expression in the contest between Yahveh and the Baalim.

The volume is divided into five parts: I. The Preliminary View of the Bible Problem; II. Elements of the Bible Problem—a sketch of the Semitic peoples and the kinship, industrial and early religious institutions of the Israelites; III. Development of Bible Religion—the history down to time of Jesus; IV. The Spread of the Bible Religion—the work of Jesus, missionary activity, the formation of the Catholic Church; V. The Bible and Religion in the Modern World—the rise of Protestantism, separation of church and state, Bible study.

Though the Jewish Church arose because of social problems it forgot its origin and gave way to a new form in Christianity. In large measure the Catholic Church discarded the social problems because of control by the wealthy. "The head and center of the Reformation was in the rising merchant and manufacturing classes," but it too has rejected in large measure the social problem. Yet there is evident a widespread interest in the questions of the day.

It is to be hoped that this volume will receive the attention it deserves at the hands of ministers and Bible students. It is a suggestive and valuable work.

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WALSH, ROBERT. *Industrial Economy.* Pp. xiv, 257. Price, 6s. London: P. S. King & Son, 1912.

This book is, in the main, an inquiry into the "comparative benefits" conferred on the community by free trade and by protection. The author maintains that the British free trade system, while claiming to be free, is essentially protective and extremely partisan in that it protects the consumers but exposes the producers to unfair competition. He objects that duties are levied on coffee and tea, whereas food and clothing, which come into competition with British products, are admitted free of duty. He holds that the importation from abroad of an article which could be produced at home inflicts an injury on British citizens, who, but for the importation of this commodity, would have themselves engaged in its production. For example, all the wheat purchased from abroad could, it is claimed, be grown within the United Kingdom by the imposition of an import duty. The consequent rise in the price of wheat would lend encouragement to this industry. The resulting extension of this industry would permit increased taxes and wages, and would provide healthy occupation for the industrial population. The consumer would, in his opinion, be compensated for the rise in the price of wheat by the abatement of some other tax, and by the enhanced earnings which would result (as he attempts to show by an elaborate set of tables) from the establishment of the new industry. A further effect of the import duty would be a rise in British agricultural rents. This, however, would not be unwelcome to our author, since he holds that the present system penalizes the owners